THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTEMNT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (c) Tbe information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Delegation of powers to Coal India Ltd.

2402. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have decided to delegate more powers to Coal India Limited ;

(b) if so, -what are the details in this regard ; and

(c) to what extent it would be helpful in the functioning of the organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (c) The Department of Coal has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Coal India Limited for the first time for the year 1989-90. As a result of signing of this Memorandum of Understanding some additional powers have been delegated to Coal India Limited. These additional powers includes :—

(i) Power to re-appropriate budget between groups and subsidiaries provided funds are not diverted to new projects sanctioned by the coal companies after 31-3-1989.

(ii) Powers to incur expenditure on replacement and renewal of assets due to normal wear and tear upto Rs. 50 crores provided the funds can be found from the internal resourses of the company and the expenditure is incurred on schemes included in the capital budget approved by the Government.

(iii) Powers to transfer Board membsrs/CMDs.

(iv) Powers to nominate upto two part-time directors on the Board of subsidiaries:

(v) Powers to sanction foreign vists of all the officers of Coal India Limited and subsidiaries except the Chairman, CIL. These powers are subject to the condition that such visits are not funded by any foreign agency unless it is part of an approved project/contract.

(vi) Certain additional powers given by Office Memorandum No. E 4(2) FEB. 1/89 dated 25-3-1989 of the Ministry of Finance regarding engagement of foreign technicians, payments relating to fcreign collaborations and material imports.

Delegation of these powers will facilitate Coal India Ltd., to discharge its functions and responsibilities more effectively.

Uniform prices of coal .

2403. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to ensure uniform prices of coal throughout the country :

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, what is the justification of imposing restrictions by the Central Government on the end use of natural gas by the State concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) I (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.